

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

**Listing of Claims:**

4. (Currently Amended) A joining member for use in a modular system for managing wires comprising:
- an inner portion having an inner surface adapted to engage a first element,
  - an outer portion having an outer surface adapted to engage a second element,
  - the outer surface being adapted to be enclosed by the second element, and
  - wherein the joining member is capable of accommodating at least one wire radially inward of the outer surface and radially outward of the inner surface, and wherein the joining member further comprises an offset fastner.
5. (Original) The joining member according to claim 4, wherein the first element is a column.
6. (Original) The joining member according to claim 4, wherein the inner surface defines a hole extending through the joining member.
7. (Original) The joining member according to claim 4, wherein a second hole disposed radially inward of the outer surface accommodates at least one wire.
8. Canceled.
9. (Original) The joining member according to claim 4, further comprising a hinge and a seam that permit the joining member to open and close.
10. (Original) The joining member according to claim 4, further comprising a rib disposed in the inner surface and protruding radially inward of the inner surface.

11. (Newly Added) - A joining member for use in a modular system for managing wires comprising:

an inner portion having an inner surface adapted to engage a first element,  
an outer portion having an outer surface adapted to engage a second element,  
the outer surface being adapted to be enclosed by the second element, and  
wherein the joining member is capable of accommodating at least one wire radially inward of the outer surface and radially outward of the inner surface, the joining member further comprising a hinge and a seam that permit the joining member to open and close.

12. (Newly Added) The joining member according to claim 11, wherein the first element is a column.

13. (Newly Added) The joining member according to claim 11, wherein the inner surface defines a hole extending through the joining member.

14. (Newly Added) The joining member according to claim 11, wherein a second hole disposed radially inward of the outer surface accommodates at least one wire.

15. (Newly Added) The joining member according to claim 11, further comprising an offset fastener.

16. (Newly Added) The joining member according to claim 11, further comprising a rib disposed in the inner surface and protruding radially inward of the inner surface.